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## FCC ANNOUNCES APPLICANTS FOR CERTIFICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL DEAF-BLIND EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

CG Docket No. 10-210

Under the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), also called "iCanConnect," the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) may provide up to \$10 million annually from the interstate telecommunications relay service fund (TRS Fund) to support local programs that distribute equipment to eligible low-income individuals who are deafblind, so that these individuals can access telecommunications service, Internet access service, and advanced communications services.\(^1\) Every five years, the Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) must certify a single entity for each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as the sole entity for that jurisdiction to administer the NDBEDP and receive reimbursement for NDBEDP activities from the TRS Fund.\(^2\) By this notice, CGB announces the applicants for NDBEDP certification for the certification cycle July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. Pursuant to NDBEDP rules, applications for this certification cycle were required to be filed one year before the end of the current certification period, or by June 30, 2021.\(^3\)

In accordance with the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, CGB publishes this list of entities that have applied for certification to participate in the NDBEDP.<sup>4</sup> In addition, this announcement provides notice to all certification applicants of any competing applications.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 620; see also 47 CFR §§ 64.6201-64.6219; Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind Individuals, CG No. 10-210, Report and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 9178 (2016) (NDBEDP Permanent Program Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 CFR § 64.6207; see also NDBEDP Permanent Program Order, 31 FCC Rcd at 9184, para. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 CFR § 64.6207; see also NDBEDP Permanent Program Order, 31 FCC Rcd at 9194, para. 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> NDBEDP Permanent Program Order, 31 FCC Rcd at 9186-87, para. 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id.* CGB received at least one application for certification for each jurisdiction and two applications for the state of Florida. CGB will release additional public notices announcing entities selected for certification under the NDBEDP after reviewing applications and supplemental materials received for each state. In addition, CGB will take appropriate steps to minimize possible service disruptions by providing as much advance notice as possible about such selections. *See id.* 

## APPLICANTS FOR CERTIFICATION:

State	Applicants
Alabama	Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind
Alaska	Assistive Technology of Alaska
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind
California	Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center for Disabilities Studies
Florida	<ul> <li>Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults</li> <li>Florida Alliance for Assistive Services &amp; Technology, Inc.</li> </ul>
Georgia	Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.
Hawaii	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Idaho	University of Idaho – Center on Disabilities and Human Development
Illinois	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center
Indiana	Perkins School for the Blind
Iowa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans
Kentucky	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center
Maine	Disability Rights Maine
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind
Michigan	Perkins School for the Blind
Minnesota	Perkins School for the Blind
Mississippi	Perkins School for the Blind
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind
Nebraska	Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership
Nevada	Perkins School for the Blind

New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind
New York	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing
North Dakota	North Dakota Assistive
Ohio	Perkins School for the Blind
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services
Tennessee	Tennessee Public Utility Commission
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind
Utah	Perkins School for the Blind
Vermont	Perkins School for the Blind
Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind
Washington	Perkins School for the Blind
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming
Other Jurisdiction	Applicants
District of Columbia	• TCSAccess
American Samoa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Guam	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Northern Mariana Islands	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind

**ACCESSIBLE FORMATS:** To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** For general information about NDBEDP, visit <a href="www.fcc.gov/NDBEDP">www.fcc.gov/NDBEDP</a>. Contact Jackie Ellington, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, 202-418-1153, e-mail <a href="mailto:Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov">Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov</a>.

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